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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01 PA-01 ICA-11 ACDA-12
/088 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3098
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USNATO
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13696

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH, UR, VN, LA, PLOS, PBOR
SUBJECT: CHINESE DIPLOMAT ON CHINESE RELATIONS WITH
SOVIET UNION, VIETNAM AND LAOS

1. PRC COUNSELOR TIEN TSENT-PEI DISCUSSED CHINESE RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, VIETNAM AND LAOS DURING JUNE 12 MEETING WITH EMBOFF AT PHILIPPINE EMBASSY RECEPTION.

2. SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS: TIEN THOUGHT THAT IL'ICHEV TALKS IN PEKING HAVE PRODUCED NO PROGRESS (HE DID NOT INDICATE THAT THE TALKS HAD ENDED, HOWEVER - SEE CONFIDENTIAL

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SEPTEL). HE REPEATED PRC LINE THAT MAY 9 SOVIET PENETRATION INTO CHINESE TERRITORY WAS DELIBERATE. THE CHINESE SIDE, HE SAID, STILL AWAITS THE SOVIET RESPONSE TO THE LAST CHINESE DEMARCHE ON THE INCIDENT. TIEN SAID THAT THE CHINESE HAVE RECEIVED NO WORD FROM THE SOVIETS ON SUCCESSOR TO DEPARTING SOVIET AMBASSADOR TOKSTIKOV. WHILE STATING THAT FAILURE TO SEND A

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SUCCESSOR WOULD INDICATE A FURTHER DIP IN SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS, HE OPINED THAT RELATIONS WILL PROBABLY STAY AT THEIR PRESENT STAGE AND NOT IMPROVE OR DETERIORATE. RELATIONS ARE SO BAD NOW, HE SAID, THAT THE NEXT STEP DOWNWARD WOULD INVOLVE MILITARY CLASHES. HE REMARKED THAT THE SOVIET AND THE CHINESE ARE NOW COMPETING WITH EACH OTHER PRACTICALLY EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

3. SINO-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS: TIEN REPEATED CHINESE CRITICISM OF THE VIETNAMESE POLICY TOWARD KAMPUCHEA. HE LAMENTED THAT HANOI'S EFFORTS TO EXPAND IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA HAVE FOLLOWED REUNIFICATION, BUT QUICKLY ADDED: "WE ALL KNOW WHO STANDS BEHIND THEM." TIEN CONFIRMED THAT PHAN HIEN HAS MADE A NUMBER OF TRIPS TO PEKING TO DISCUSS SINO-VIETNAMESE PROBLEMS, INCLUDING DIFFERENCES OVER THE BORDER. HE BLAMED LACK OF PROGRESS ON THE VIETNAMESE SIDE. THE MAJOR BORDER ISSUE, TIEN STATED, IS DEMARCATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, PARTICULARLY BETWEEN HAINAN ISLAND AND THE VIETNAMESE MAINLAND. THE CHINESE WISH TO DEMARCATE AT THE MID-WAY POINT. THE VIETNAMESE, HE CONTENDED, WANT MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT. TIEN SAID THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OVER BOUNDRY DEMARCATION ALONG ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THE MAINLAND BORDER.

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4. LAOS: EMBOFF INQUIRED ABOUT CHINESE PRESENCE IN NORTHERN LAOS. TIEN REPLIED THAT CHINESE LABORERS WERE PULLED OUT FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF PRC AID PROJECTS IN NORTHERN LAOS. NO CHINESE TROOPS ARE NOW IN NORTHERN LAOS. THE CHINESE PRESENCE IS NOW LIMITED TO THE PHOUNG SALY CONSULATE. TIEN CRITICIZED LAOTIAN PRIME MINISTER KAYSONE (WHO IS PART VIETNAMESE) FOR HIS BIAS TOWARD VIETNAM. HE COMPARED KAYSONE TO RAUL CASTRO, AND MONGOLIA'S TSEDENBAL, BOTH OF WHOM ARE MARRIED TO SOVIETS AND ARE STRONGLY PRO-MOSCOW. TOON

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